

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Hartmann, Harald

USSN.: 10/575,598

I.A. NO.: PCT/EP2004/001886

I. A. FILING DATE: February 26, 2004

FOR: Plug-in connector for tube and hose lines with a reinforced material cross section.

ART UNIT: To be assigned

EXAMINER: To be assigned

CUSTOMER NO.: 27,388

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

**I. Timeliness, Fees and Certifications in lieu of Fees**

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application, or within three months of entry into the national stage, or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(b), consideration of this information disclosure statement does not require a fee or a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e). However, should the Assistant Commissioner determine that a fee is, in fact, due, the Assistant

Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

**II. Copies of Listed References**

Copies of all references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being supplied.

Copies of U.S. patents are not included pursuant to Pre-OG Notice dated July 11, 2003.

**III. Concise Statement of Relevance**

Three references listed on the attached Form were cited in the German Search report issued by the German Patent Office, which indicates the degree of relevance found by that Patent Office is attached. DE 197 43 825 A1 was listed in the German Patent and Trademark Office action.

Translations of claims 1 of DE 197 43 825 A1 and DE 197 40 649 A1 are provided.

Respectfully submitted,

NORRIS MC LAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

By Christa Hildebrand  
Christa Hildebrand  
Reg. No. 34,953  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
875 Third Avenue  
18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10022  
(212) 808-0700